GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1675
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2001
FORMATION OF ADDITIONAL ZONES
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO;BHAVNA DEVRAJ CHIKHALIA;MANSINH PATEL;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;RUDRAGOUDA PATIL

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of six new railway zones and eight divisions were approved by the Parliament in 1996;

(b) if so, the names of the zones/divisions alongwith the location of their headquarters;

(c) the total cost involved therein, zone and division-wise;

(d) the funds provided the progress made so far regarding construction of infrastructre and jurisdictions, zone/division/ year-wise;

(e) whether there have been a demand to create some more zones/divisions;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (g) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1675 BY S/SHRI MAN PATEL, K.P. SINGH DEO, SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA, G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA AND R.S. PATIL TO BE ANSWER LOK SABHA ON 02.8.2001 REGARDING FORMATION OF ADDITIONAL ZONES.

(a) The proposal to create six new railway zones was approved by the Cabinet in 1996. Another new zone was approved by the Cabinet in 1998 with headquarters at Bilaspur. The Government`s decision to set up eight new divisions was announced in the Parliament in 1995 while placing the supplementary demands for grants for the 1995-96 budget.

(b) The names of the proposed seven new Zones and eight new divisions with their headquarters are as under:-

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Name of the Zone Headquarter
East Central Zone Hajipur
East Coast Zone  Bhubaneswar
North Central Zone Allahabad
North Western Zone Jaipur
South Western Zone Bangalore (later changed to Hubli in 1999 by the Cabinet)
West Central Zone Jabalpur
Bilaspur Zone  Bilaspur
Name of the Division Headquarter
Agra Division  Agra
Ahmedabad Division Ahmedabad
Guntur Division  Guntur
Pune Division  Pune
Raipur Division  Raipur
Ranchi Division  Ranchi
Rangiya Division Rangiya
Singrauli Division Singrauli
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(c) Each of the new zonal headquarter except Bilaspur Zone was proposed to be set upat an original planned cost of Rs.41.66 crores. Bilaspur Zone was proposed to be set up at a cost of Rs.100 crores. Similarly, each of the new Divisional headquarters was proposed to be set up at an original planned cost of Rs.13 crores. However, the present cost estimates are as under :-

Name of the Zone/Division	Current Anticipated Cost(in Rs. Crores)
1. East Central Zone/ Hajipur	115.00
2. East Coast Zone/ Bhubaneswar	111.00
3. North Central Zone/ Allahabad	121.00
4. North Western Zone/Jaipur	155.74
5. South Western Zone/ Bangalore	139.00
6. West Central Zone/Jabalpur	115.96
7 Bilaspur Zone/Bilaspur	100.00
8. Agra Division/Agra	15.20
9. Ahmedabad Division/ Ahmedabad	13.86
10. Guntur Division/Guntur	13.00
11. Pune Division/Pune	18.83
12. Raipur Division/Raipur	13.00
13. Ranchi Division/Ranchi	32.84
14. Rangiya Division/Rangiya	19.00
15. Singrauli Division/Singrauli	33.14

(d) The year-wise break-up of funds (as per Pink Book) provided for setting up of these new zonal/divisonal headquarters is as under:-

Name of the Zonal/ Divisional Headquarters	Fund allocation in Rs. Crores					
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02
East Central Zone/ Hajipur	-	5.24	4.50	0.80	0.31	0.555
East Coast Zone/ Bhubaneswar	-	5.24	4.50	0.60	0.30	0.10
North Central Zone/ Allahabad	-	5.24	4.00	0.80	0.30	0.50
North Western Zone/Jaipur	-	5.24	4.50	0.62	0.90	0.40
South Western Zone/ Bangalore	-	5.24	4.50	0.80	0.30	0.47
West Central Zone/Jabalpur	-	5.24	4.00	0.60	0.35	0.50
Bilaspur Zone/Bilaspur	-	-	0.10	3.00	0.50	0.10
Agra Division/Agra	1.25	0.50	0.10	2.19	0.20	0.50
Ahmedabad Division/ Ahmedabad	0.25	0.50	0.10	2.00	0.20	0.095
Guntur Division/Guntur	0.25	0.30	0.10	1.50	0.10	0.40
Pune Division/Pune	1.25	1.00	1.50	1.98	0.40	0.10
Raipur Division/Raipur	0.25	0.25	0.10	2.00	0.20	0.10
Ranchi Division/Ranchi	0.25	0.50	0.48	3.90	2.20	1.50
Rangiya Division/Rangiya	0.28	1.25	0.10	1.32	0.30	0.10
Singrauli Division/Singrauli	0.50	1.20	0.10	0.50	0.20	0.20

Based on the available funds, some infrastructure development has been done for the construction of Zonal Hqrs buildings and staff quarters.

The jurisdiction of only two new zones out of seven viz. East Central Zone/Hajipur and North Western Zone/Jaipur and eight new divisions has since been finalised. However, no notification has been issued so far in this regard.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The State-wise break-up of representations received by the Government in the last 5 years for setting up of new zones/divisions is as under:-

Name of the State	No. of representations received for	
	Zonal Headquarters	Divisional Headquarters
Andhra Pradesh	3	13
Assam	-	26
Bihar	19	10
Gujarat	5	9
Karnataka	20	1
Kerala	8	5
Maharashtra	1	9
Madhya Pradesh	34	4
Orissa	4	4
Rajasthan	8	-
Tamilnadu	-	6
Uttar Pradesh	3	3
West Bengal	1	-

(g) New Zones/Divisions are set up keeping in view factors like size, workload, traffic patterns and other operating/administrative requirements rather than on territorial considerations. However, the entire issue of reorganisation is under review in view of the severe resource crunch currently being faced by the railways, technological developments on IT sector and improved communication facilities now available.